



William E Bray Jr.

December 22, 1936 - July 20, 2023

Vincentown, NJ - It is with heavy hearts and profound sadness that we announce the passing of William Emery Bray, Jr., a beloved husband, father, grandfather, teacher, and community pillar. Bill left us peacefully on July 20th at the age of 86, leaving behind a legacy of kindness, service, and laughter that will forever be cherished by those who knew and loved him.

Bill was born December 22, 1936 to William Emery Bray, MD and Hattie Mae Parker Bray. Bill spent his formative years in the close knit community of Pemberton, NJ. Bill attended Utah State and Paul Smith's College earning a degree in forestry. Bill also held a degree in education from Trenton State College. Bill was a veteran who proudly served in the United States Coast Guard.

Bill married Judy Emmons in 1966. Bill and Judy were long standing residents of Vincentown, NJ where they remained deeply connected to the community.

Throughout his life, Bill wore many hats, and his contributions were felt in various spheres. As a life-long educator, Bill dedicated much of his life to shaping young minds in the Pemberton School District. Beyond the classroom Bill worked for the NJ Forest Service and had a long career in real estate helping countless families find their dream home while building lifelong friendships in the process.

Beyond his professional pursuits Bill devoted much of his time and energy to various civic organizations including the Vincentown Fire Department, Salvation Army, Vincentown United Methodist Church, Vincentown Historical Society, Vincentown Shade Tree Commission and serving as a coach for numerous STRA baseball teams.

Outside of his work and volunteer endeavors, Bill enjoyed gardening, finding joy among the blooms he nurtured, especially his famous zinnias. He was an active outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing, and playing golf. He enjoyed people and his keen sense of humor shone through as he shared good jokes and stories, bringing laughter and joy to those around him. His emails were unmistakable, always written in ALL CAPS, a signature style that brought a smile to recipients' faces. Bill was also an avid 'Jeopardy' fan and he never missed an opportunity to watch and cheer on his beloved Philadelphia Phillies.

Above all, Bill treasured his family. He is survived by his wife Judy, his daughter Elizabeth, and her husband Robert Bruno of Mt Laurel, NJ along with their children William and Braylyn. His son Scott and his wife Betsy of Richmond, VA and their children Emery and Harrison. His sister Patricia Owen of Penn Yan, NY and his sister in law Mary McKee (Clyde) of Old Saybrook, CT. Bill's devotion to his family was unwavering, and the love they shared was a beacon of warmth and comfort.

Visitation will be held August 4th at 9:30AM to 10:30 AM at the Vincentown United Methodist Church with a memorial service directly following at 11:00 AM. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Bill's honor to The Vincent Fire Company #1 or The Salvation Army continuing his legacy of giving back to the community he loved dearly.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 4. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Vincentown United Methodist Church
97 Main St.
Vincentown, NJ

Masonic Service

AUG 4. 10:45 AM (ET)

Vincentown United Methodist Church
97 Main St.
Vincentown, NJ

Memorial Service

AUG 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Vincentown United Methodist Church
97 Main St.
Vincentown, NJ

Tribute Wall



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William E Bray Jr..*



August 03, 2023 at 05:21 PM



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August 03, 2023 at 05:21 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Bill Bray*



Jeffrey E Hicks - July 27, 2023 at 06:38 PM



Rest in peace, Brother Bill. Thanks for the memories.

Jeffrey E Hicks - July 27, 2023 at 06:41 PM



So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He was a nice man.

Cheryl Friedman - August 02, 2023 at 07:49 PM

CG

“ So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Sending prayers



Cindy and Jim Glenn - July 27, 2023 at 10:20 AM

PR

“ So sorry to hear of Bills passing. We have many fond memories of him.

Pat and Kevin Rainier

Patricia Rainier - July 26, 2023 at 11:54 AM

BM

My condolences, fond memories of working with Bill for Sam Alloway and Carrie Grundner. Beverly Marinelli

Beverly Marinelli - July 27, 2023 at 09:45 PM